

country something like 22 inches of snow (according to the papers). The plane shook and trembled and the wings tipped and I was greatly uneasy. Like everyone else on the plane, I displayed outward calm. I was thinking, however. The atmosphere was dark and mean. There was barely a 20 foot visibility ahead. Even tho we were about 10,000 feet above ground, yet, sailing at 230 miles per hour, it is easy to imagine how a plane can plow into a mountain without knowing what hit him. I sure was glad when New Jersey nad New York city came into full view and we started descending to La Guardia field.

I changed planes and flew toward Boston. New England was still green and the countryside was charming. With its many lakes, forests and fields, the New English states seemed from the air as if they were landscaped.

I had but two days in Boston and the days flew as fast as my trip from Chicago to Boston. Sunday, after Mass at St. Peter's Lithuanian church of So. Boston, and after dinner, it was already concert time. After that there was a BALF (Lithuanian Relief Fund) banquet ant the Lithuanian Hall and one day was gone. On the next day I was at Harvard U. in Cambridge, visited Lincoln House Association (where Helen Daneliak is associated - we had lunch together), then I visited Miss Pat Parmelee at the International Institute, Beacon Hill (Nothing exciting there), the Lithuanian papers of Keleivis and Darbininkas. Supper with Mr. A.O. Shallna, consul for Lithuania in Boston, and a class with the Ivaška group.

The concert was very successful. Mrs. Ivaška has a beautifully trained group. My numbers were received very well. The happy part of the whole event was the meeting for the first tome of old friends and the seeing of old friends. Patty McLane Rotch who was an International House member in Chicago the first year I started teaching ten years ago. She is now married and a mother of three children. She, her mother and Bill, her husband, came down from Milford, N. H. to attned the concert. Eddy Nadel, who now teaches folk dancing at Harvard, Miss Pat Parmelee of the International Institute, with whom I've been corresponding for many years, was there. I also saw Vytautas Ramanauskas, from Lowell Mass. Mr. John Tuinila, a active New Englnd Lith. Miss Phyllis Grendal, active in the Knights of Lithuania organization, and Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Shallna, both prominent citizens. Tho American born Mr. Shallna is greatly concerned with Lithuania's fate. He was one of the delegates to Switzerland to obtain recognition for Lithuania's first Independence. He also received a citation from President Roosevelt. He is on the board of the International Institute, a lawyer and a civic leader. Mrs. Shallna is also a lawyer, a member of the Board of Reviews where pensions are concerned, and the president of the Professional Women's Association of Mass. And of course, I saw the Ivaškas again. We see each other at each National Folk Festival but it was grand to be their guest. Their entire heart is in the work of Lithuanian folk lore. She has a fine group and also four sons. It sure was good seeing them al and meeting so many more grand folks.

The Lithuanians live mostly in So. Boston and in what I thought, a very lovely section of the Dorchester Hights. I stayed with the Bratėnas family in a historic home the front of which faced the decisive hill from which the British were driven into the bay, while the back overlooked the bay. (I forgot to find out if Washington slept there). The people were extremely hospitable and friendly and it was a pleasure to know them.

After the airplain flight, the train trip from Boston to Washington seemd like sheer waste of time. Nine and

a half hours! Of course, I got to see at close hand New England States and cities and the Atlantic coast line. Providence, R. I. appeared like a very lovely city, as did New Haven, Conn. and all the towns we passed. Some were highly industrialized others strictly residential. From New London on it seemed as if the entire coast line was a string of cities in a continuous succession.

In Washington I stayed for two brief days with my god-brother Al Ažukas. I've been in the capitol city many times so there was nothing new for me, save, that I've enjoyed immensely the balmy weather (it was then in the sixties) and took in all the sunshine before returning to cold and dreary Chicago. Bernardo Gomez who is now in Washington and teaches dancing at the U N Club, came over and we went to see th United Nations Club and the International House. I also visited the Lithuanian Legation and the day was gone. In the evening I went down to Bethesda, Md. for supper with the Dallas Smiths. The Smiths lived in Moss Point, Miss. when I lived in Alabama. Sally Lou, who is now a gorgeous beauty, was one of my students at the Organic School in Fairhope, Ala. The Smiths and Edwards, who was then but three, often visited Fairhope and we became friends. I was also the guest of the Smiths in the beautiful Southern mansion they occupied in Moss Point. We sure talked away a "blue streak" about everything and everyone in Fairhope and old times.

I came back to Chicago and to a whole string of programs that awaited me. My next trip is Cincinnati. But about that later. meanwhile, Pasimatysim.

Vyts-Fin

## Happy New Year

### THE MILFORD CABINET EDITORIAL

(NOTE - This editorial was reprinted from the 145 year old THE MILFORD CABINET of Milford, N. H. The editor, Mr. Wm. B. Rotch, and Mrs. Rotch, attended the folk concert which was held in So. Boston, Mass., sponsored by Mrs. Ona Ivaška.)

We thoroughly enjoyed a program of songs, dances and recitations in South Boston Sunday afternoon, despite being unable to understand a word that was spoken.

All afternoon we heard nothing but Lithuanian; it was an annual occasion when the Lithuanian people of Boston keep alive the customs and traditions of a country which few of them can think of without a feeling of pain.

Our impressions were necessarily superficial, and yet the older people in particular obviously were deeply moved by the program. To us the kaleidoscopic effect of colorful hand-woven costumes, of folk dances and songs, was delightful. Well-scrubbed blond little boys and girls recited, older children sang, and young people danced the colorful dances of their parents' homeland.

The fact that so many of us know little about Lithuania is to be regretted. We are prone to think of it only as "one of the small Baltic states," a sort of political pawn that featured in a recent chapter of Russian aggression. Today it is imprisoned behind the iron curtain nad prospects of any interchange of ideas or material aid between Lithuania and this country are dim indeed.

Meanwhile a bright spot on a gray horizon is the way in which the Americans of Lithuanian descent ... and it surprises us to realize how many there are ... endeavor to keep alive in their children the very rich culture of their brave little country.

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